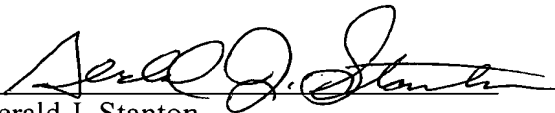


**Remarks/Arguments:**

Claims 1-35 are pending in the present application. In the referenced Office Action, the Examiner has asserted two distinct species of the claimed invention: Group I that includes claims 1-18, and Group II that includes claims 19-35.

Applicant elects Group I, claims 1-18, drawn to a channel and method for fabricating the channel. This election is without traverse and without prejudice or disclaimer. The non-elected claims are cancelled in the attached listing of claims. Examination of the elected claims on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Gerald J. Stanton  
Reg. No.: 46,008

September 7, 2004  
Date

Customer No.: 29683  
HARRINGTON & SMITH, LLP  
4 Research Drive  
Shelton, CT 06484-6212  
Phone: (203) 925-9400  
Facsimile: (203) 944-0245  
Email: gstanton@hspatent.com

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

September 7, 2004  
Date

  
Ann Okrentowich